Opinions on Health Care

National Survey[1] *vs. Idaho Comparison*[2]

1. Comparison between National insurance coverage and Idaho insurance coverage.

National Survey

Are you covered by health insurance through an employer, a union, or through a plan you got on your own, or are you covered by Medicare of Medicaid? (If insured)

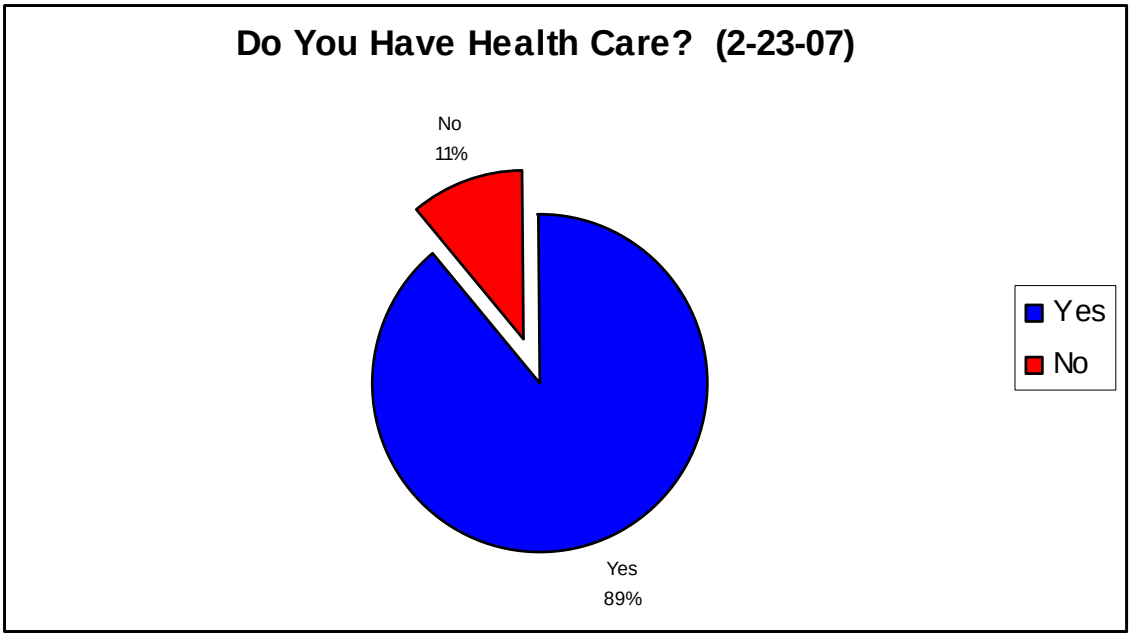
	Employer/Union/Self	Medicare/Medicaid	Both (vol.)	DK/NA
2/18-19/ 97	77	14	8	1
2/23-27/07	72	16	11	1

Do you have some form of health insurance or health care coverage, or not?

	Yes	No	DK/NA
7/19-21/98	87	12	1
7/13-14/99 CBS	87	13	
7/13-16/00	89	11	
9/27-10/1/00	87	12	1
1/20-25/06	88	12	
2/23-27/07	89	11	

[1] Survey results taken from The New York Times CBS News Poll, Feb. 23-27, 2007.

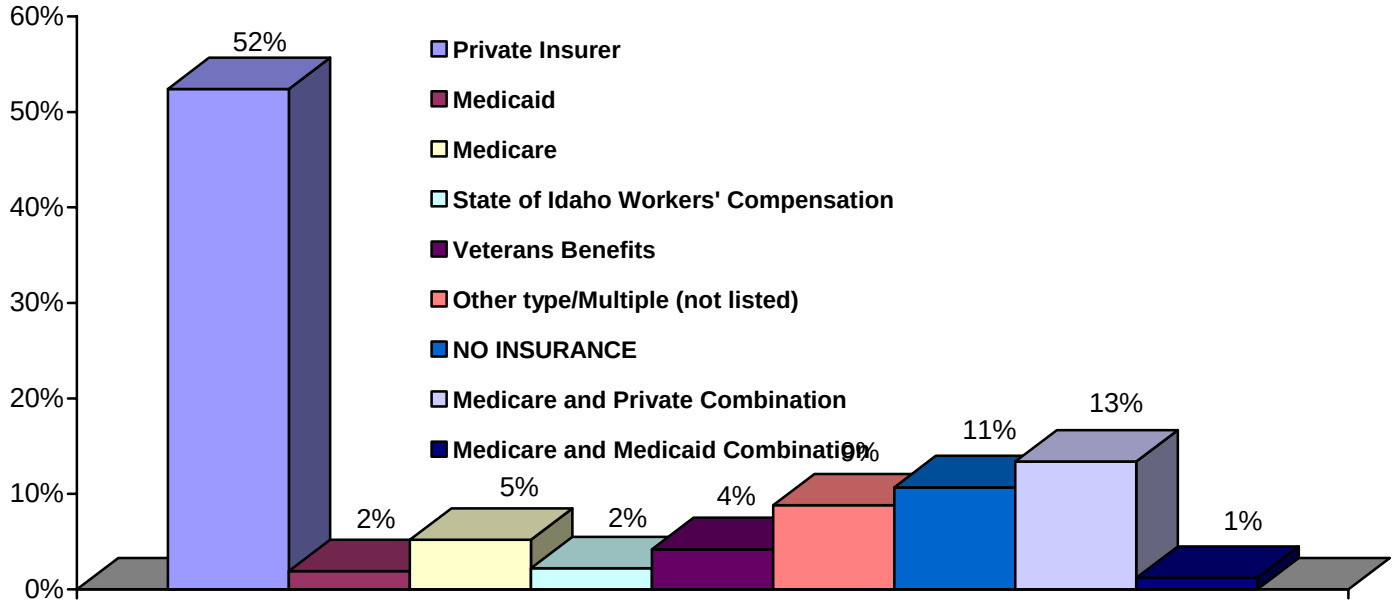
[2] Idaho results taken from the 18th Annual Public Policy Survey, Boise State University.

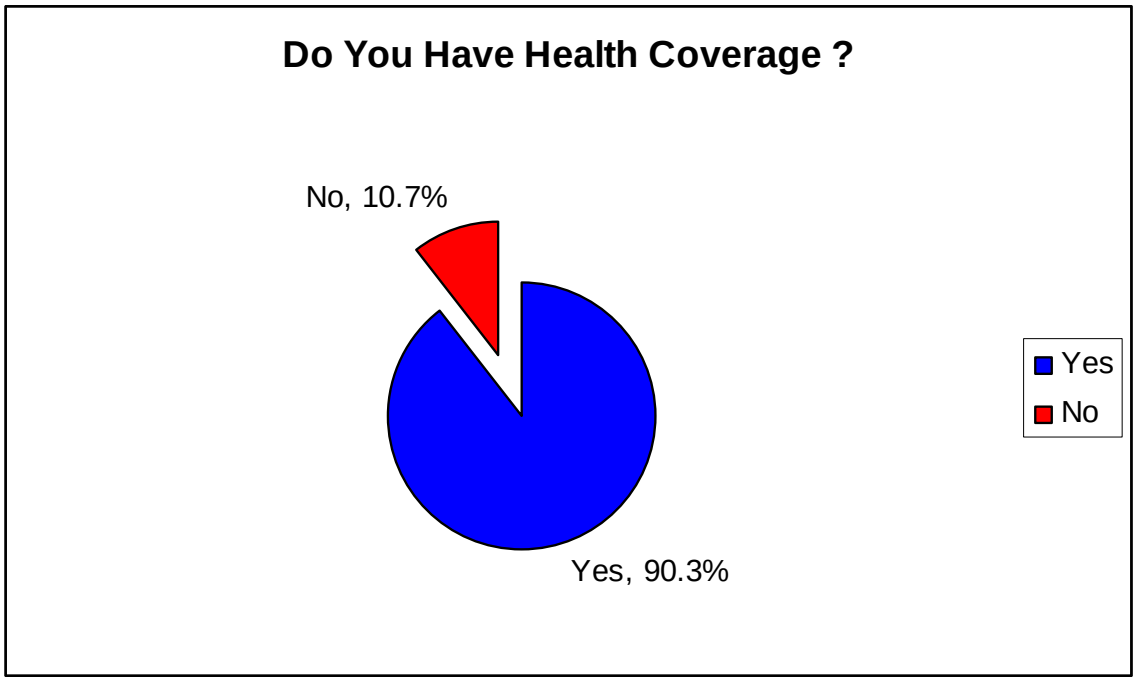


Idaho Survey

Statewide Health/Medical Insurance Coverage

N= 1,053,659	Region Code Used in Postratification -CALCULATED						Total
	Region 3	**Region 2**	**Region 3**	**Region 4**	**Region 5**	**Region 6**	
Private Insurer	52.1%	52.6%	50.2%	61.8%	49.6%	54.1%	**52.4%**
Medicaid	4.0%	1.4%	1.5%		2.5%	2.4%	**1.9%**
Medicare	5.4%	7.4%	4.8%	6.5%	4.9%	3.5%	**5.2%**
State of Idaho's Workers' Compensation	N/A	N/A	3.5%	1.2%	2.2%	2.3%	**2.2%**
Veterans Benefits	5.4%		7.2%		1.3%	1.2%	**4.2%**
Other type/Multiple	.8%	14.7%	7.9%	8.9%	12.6%	14.5%	**8.8%**
NO INSURANCE	15.1%	10.4%	10.9%	6.4%	10.5%	9.4%	**10.7%**
Medicare and Private Combination	15.6%	12.1%	13.2%	12.4%	15.2%	11.4%	**13.4%**
Medicare and Medicaid Combination	1.5%	1.4%	.7%	2.8%	1.1%	1.2%	**1.2%**
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%





Comparison

Idahoans hold some variety of health coverage at the same rate as those on a national level. Roughly **11%** of U.S. citizens don't have any sort of health coverage as do; those without health coverage in Idaho are nearly identical at a **10.7%** non-coverage rate.

Idaho uses private health insurers at a lower rate than the national average. On average, **72%** of U.S. citizens use a private form of insurance such as company, union or self coverage health insurance. Idaho citizens used private health coverage at a rate of **52%**. Idaho uses Medicaid or Medicare at a rate of **8.3%** while U.S. citizens have a **16%** rating. Finally, a combination of Medicaid/Medicare and private health insurance is held by **11%** of U.S. citizens. Idaho citizens use the same combination at a rate of **13.4%.** [3]

2. Attitudes toward providing insurance for children.

National

Currently, a government program provides health insurance for some children in low and moderate income families. Would you favor or oppose expanding this program to include ALL uninsured children?

	Favor	Oppose	DK/NA
2/23-27/07	84	11	5

If answered "FAVOR," What if that meant you would have to pay more in taxes? Then, would you favor or oppose expanding the government program to include all uninsured children?

	Favor	Oppose	DK/NA
2/23-27/07	67	12	4

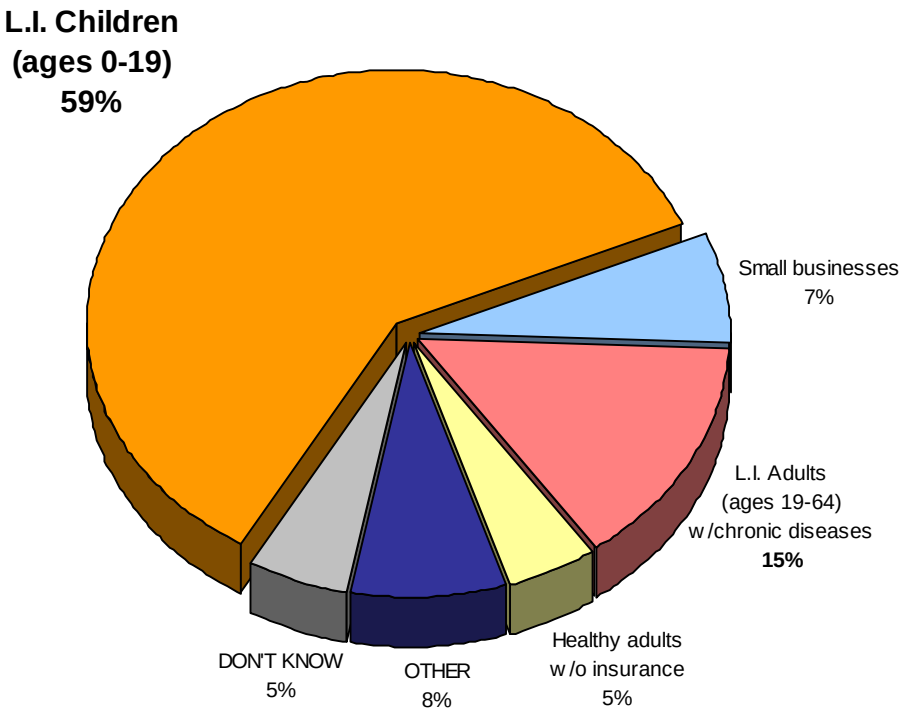
[3] Some forms of health coverage such as Veterans Benefits, Workers Compensation, and others were not polled at the national level.

Idaho

Which group should be the highest priority for receiving public assistance to pay for health insurance?

N= 1,053,659	Region Code Used in Poststratification - CALCULATED						Total
	Region 1	Region 2	Region 3	Region 4	Region 5	Region 6	
Children (ages 0-19) in low income families	55.7%	67.8%	59.4%	57.2%	66.7%	57.5%	**59.8%**
Small businesses of 10 or fewer employees	7.5%	7.7%	8.8%	5.1%	3.4%	2.4%	**6.7%**
Low income adults (ages 19-64) with chronic diseases such as heart disease, diabetes, mental illness	13.6%	10.3%	13.1%	20.7%	18.1%	15.0%	**14.6%**
Healthy low income adults who don't have insurance	5.4%	4.4%	4.8%	3.9%	3.6%	6.0%	**4.8%**
OTHER (SPECIFY)	14.5%	3.0%	7.4%	7.6%	3.6%	8.5%	**7.9%**
DON'T KNOW	2.3%	5.4%	5.0%	5.4%	4.7%	9.5%	**5.2%**
REFUSED	.9%	1.4%	1.4%			1.2%	**1.0%**
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Priority for Receiving Health Care



Comparison

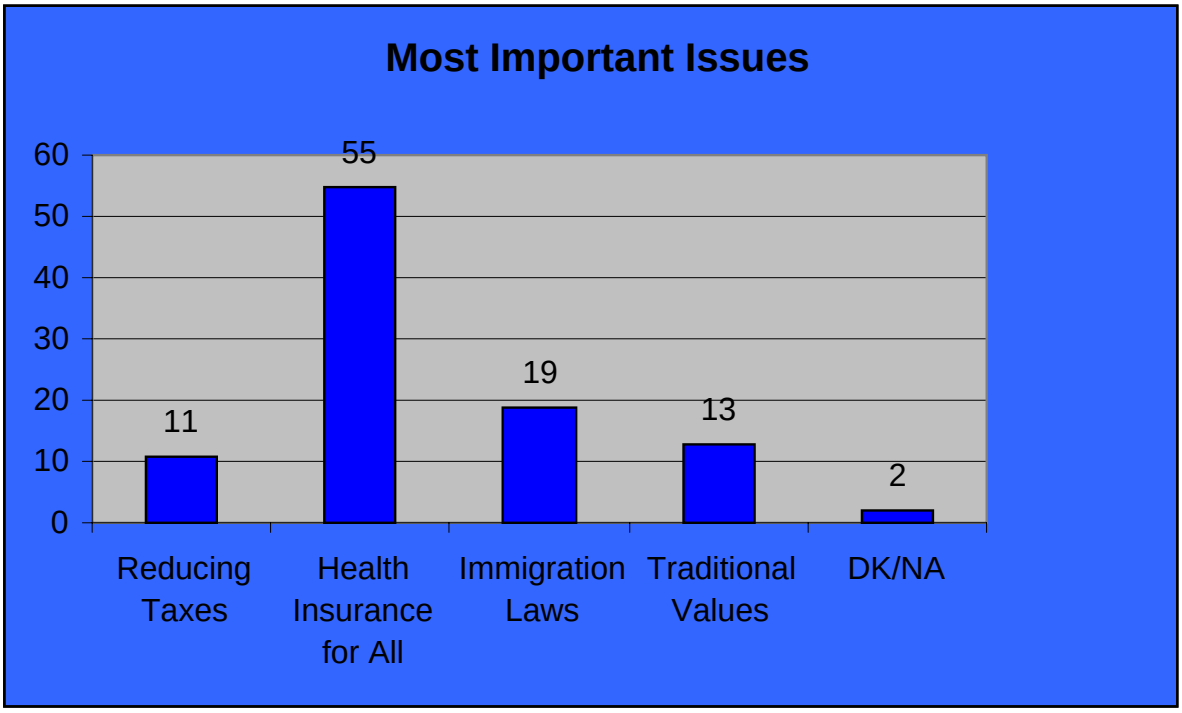
Polls taken at the national and state level reflect a positive attitude towards providing children in low income families with health care. **Fifty nine percent** of Idahoans believe low income children should receive the most public assistance for health costs. On a national level, **84%** of Americans said they favor expanding a health care program to assist all underprivileged children. **Sixty seven percent** of those said they would support the program even if it meant paying more income taxes.

3. Most important national and state issues.

Nation

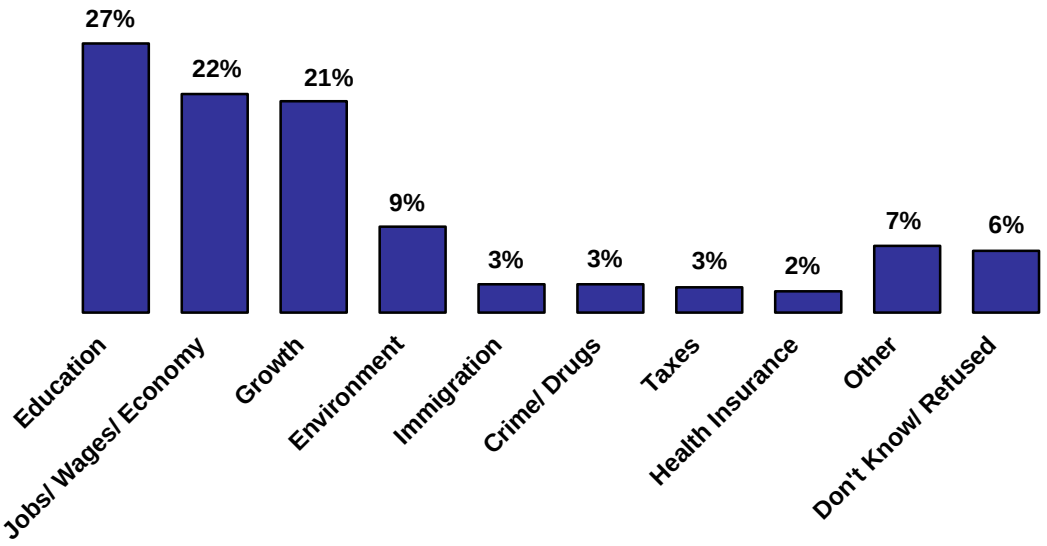
Which of these domestic policies is most important for the President and Congress to concentrate on right now: 1. reducing taxes, 2. making health insurance available to all Americans, 3. strengthening immigration laws, or 4. promoting traditional values?

	Reducing taxes	Health insurance for all	Immigration laws	Traditional values	DK/NA
2/23-27/07	11	55	19	13	2



Idaho

What is the single most important issue facing Idaho today?

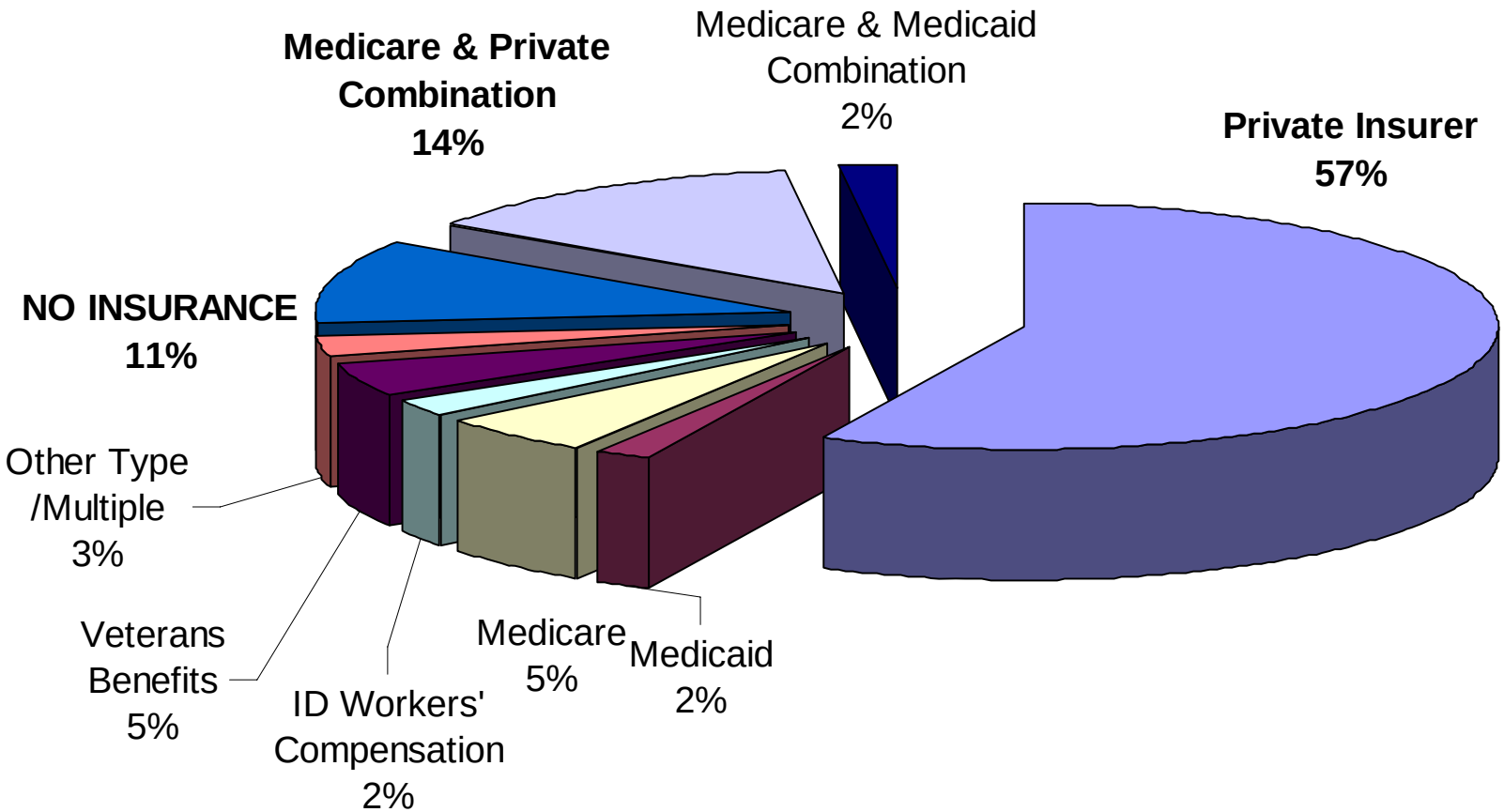


Comparison

While the Idaho survey offers a more broad selection of issues than the national survey, attitudes towards healthcare appear to be nonchalant. Only **2%** believe it is the most important issue facing Idaho. On the other hand, from a national perspective it is the most important issue facing the nation. **Fifty five percent** of those polled believed providing health care for all was the most important issue facing the nation. (Note: The Idaho survey asks citizens an open-ended question. The national poll provided a response set from which respondents chose one best answer.)

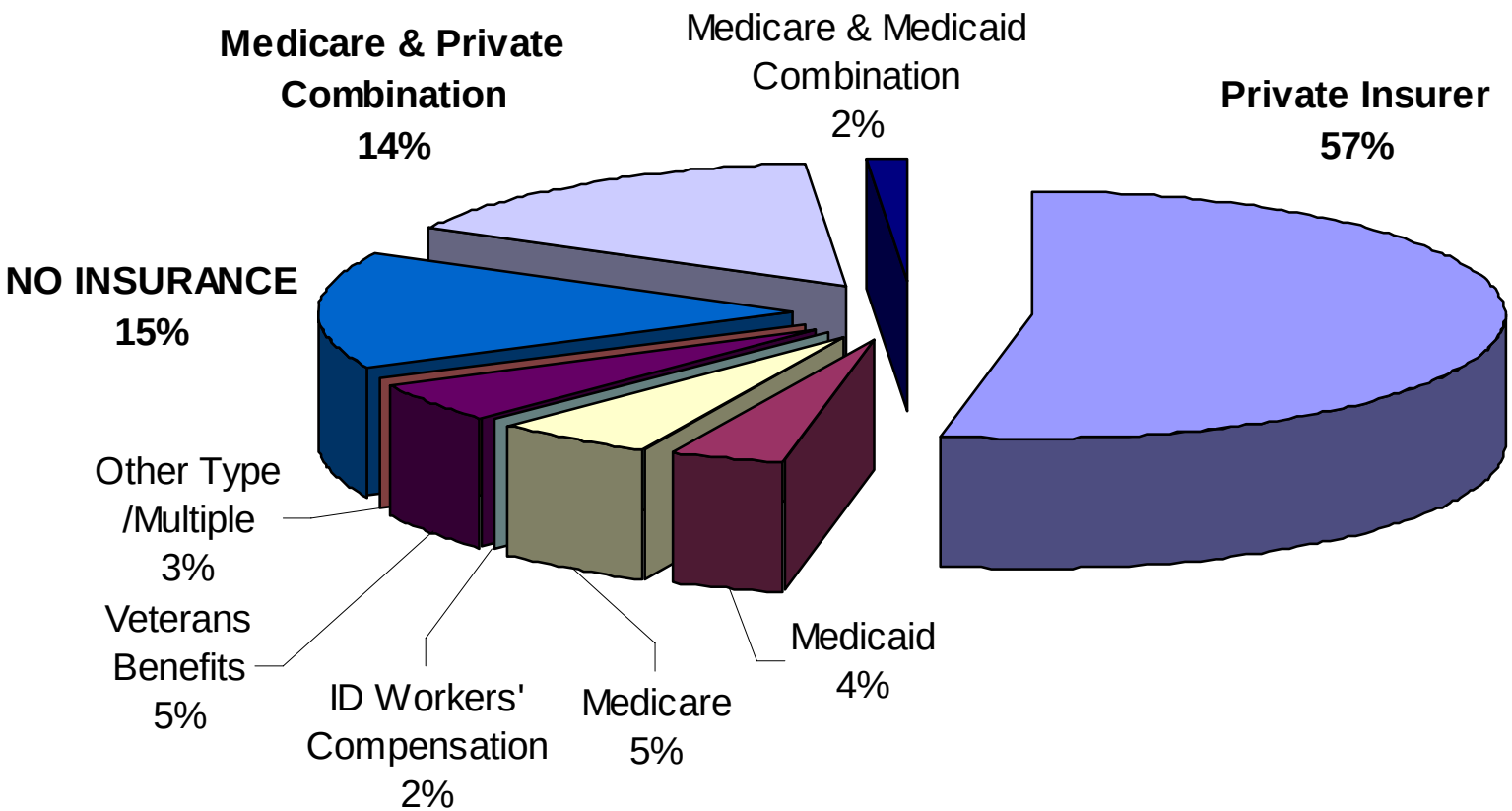
Health Insurance

Idaho Statewide - Coverage



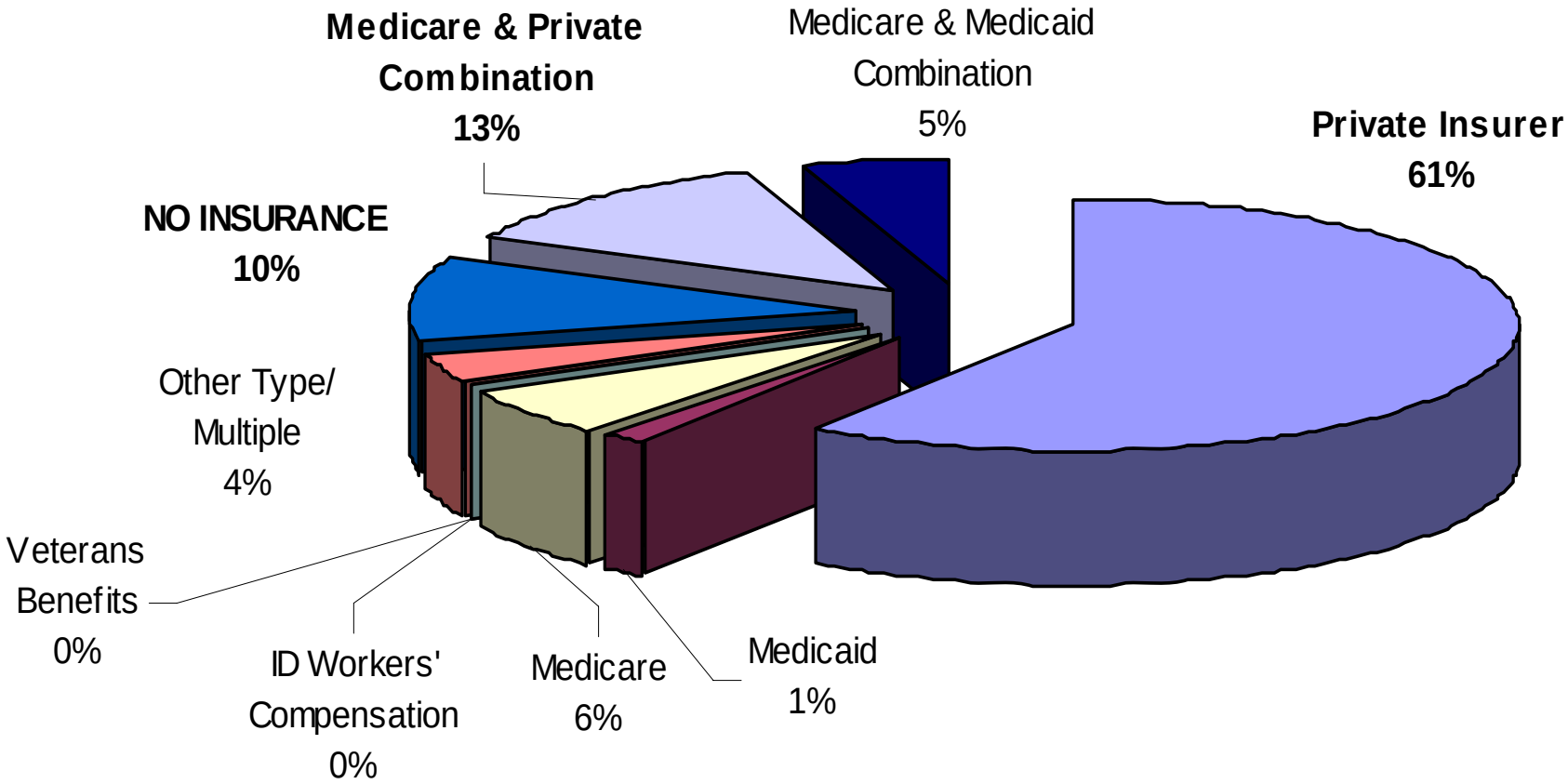
Health Insurance

Region 1- Panhandle - Coverage



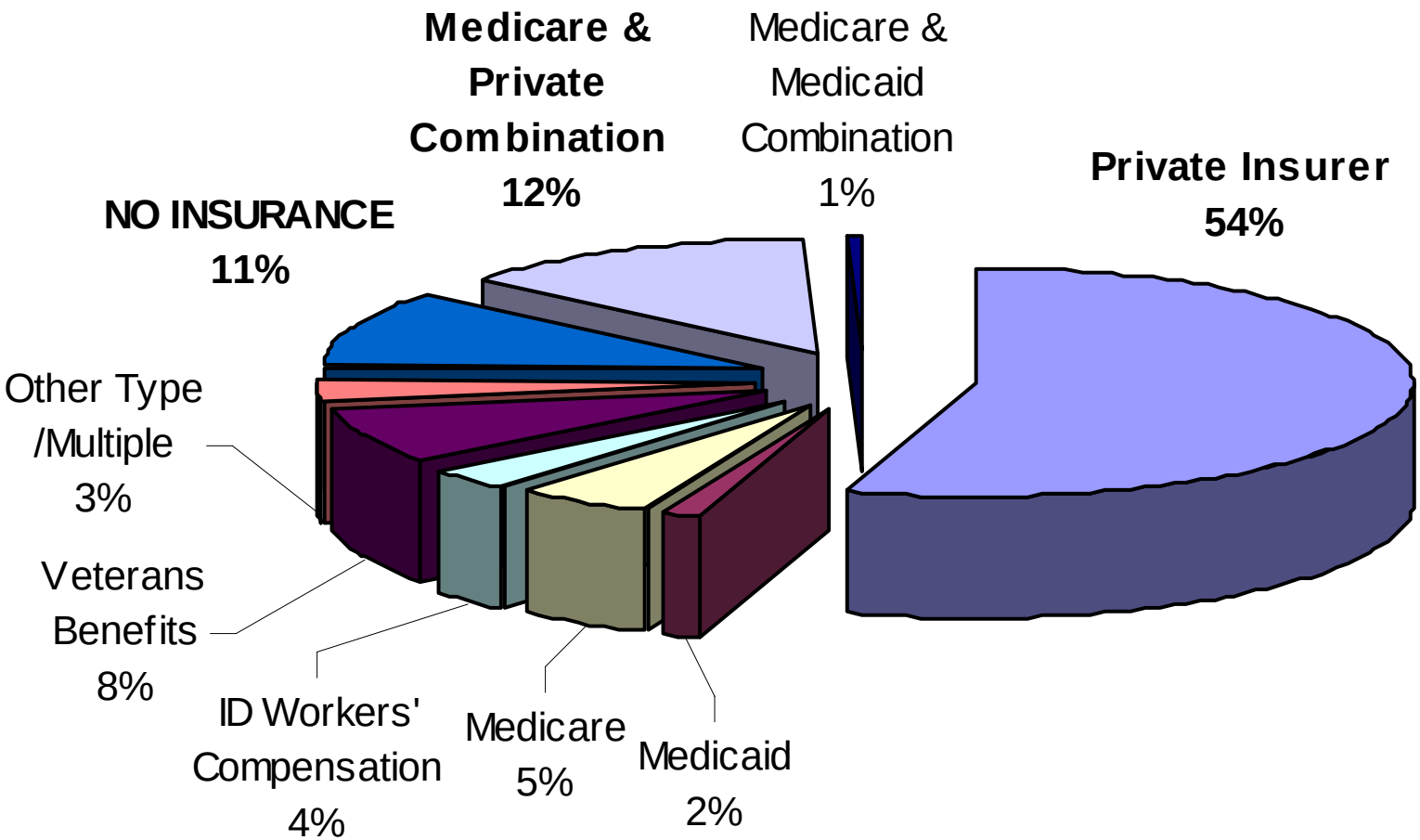
Health Insurance

Region 2- North Central - Coverage



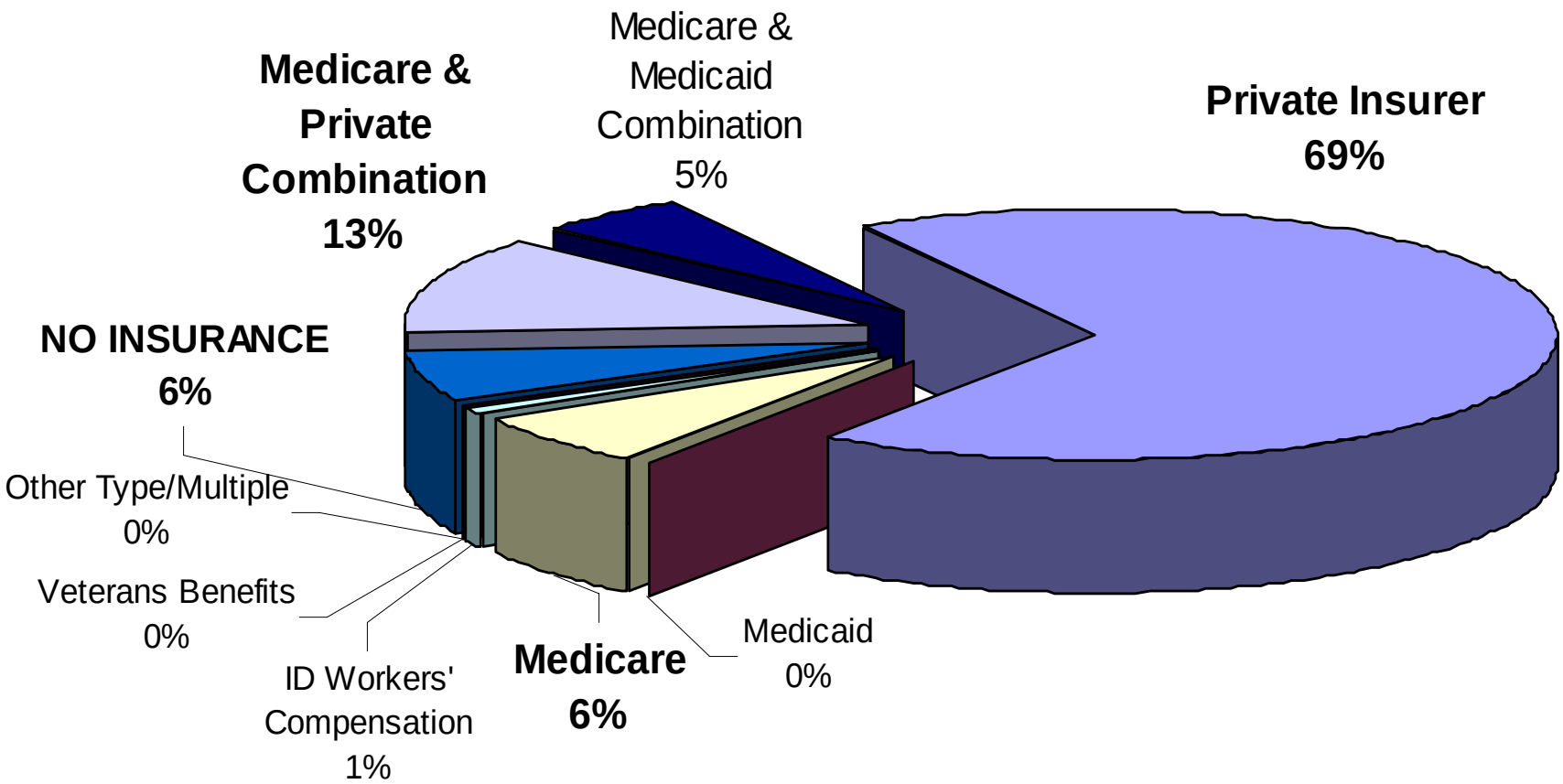
Health Insurance

Region 3- South West - Coverage



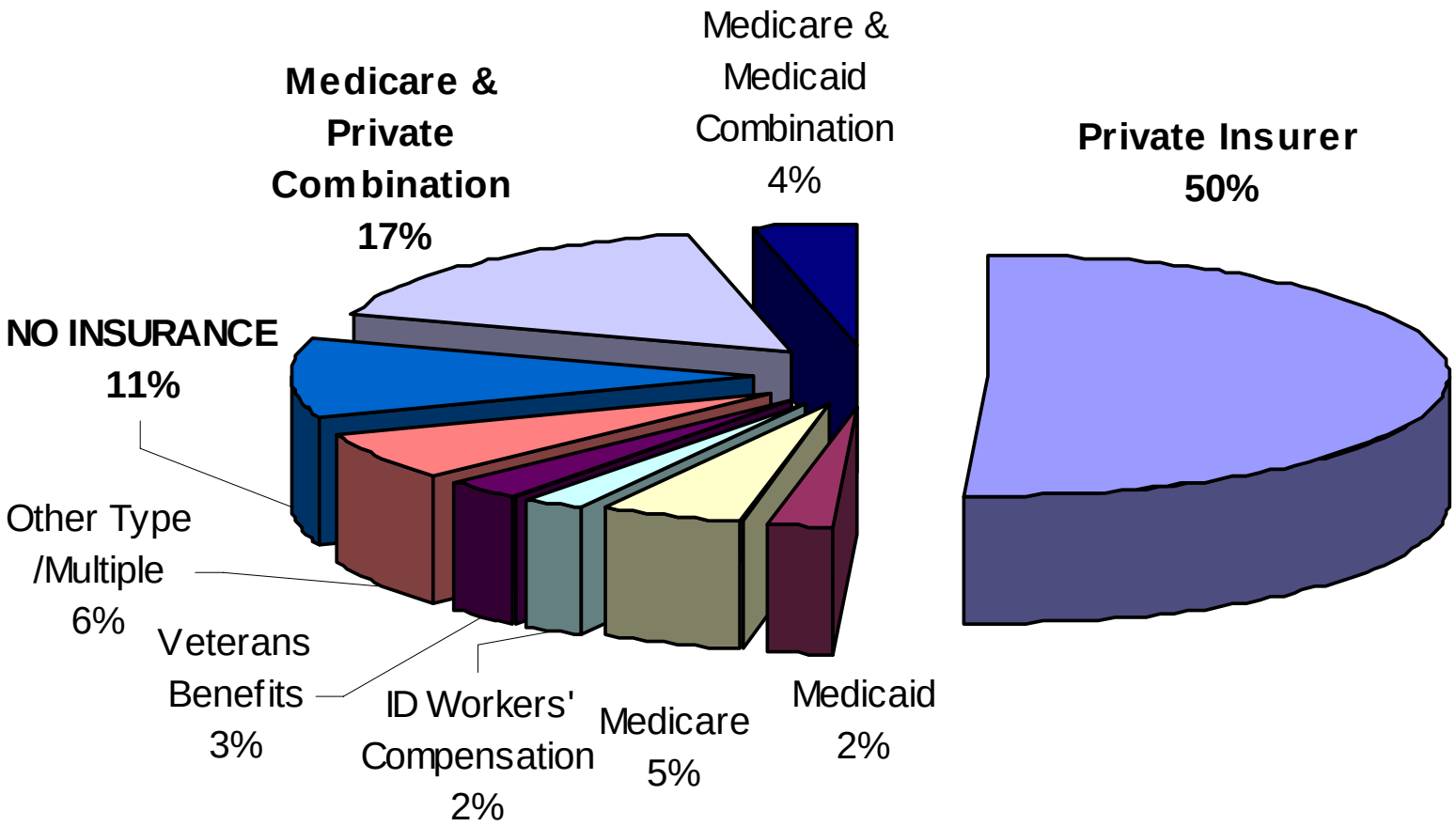
Health Insurance

Region 4 - South Central - Coverage



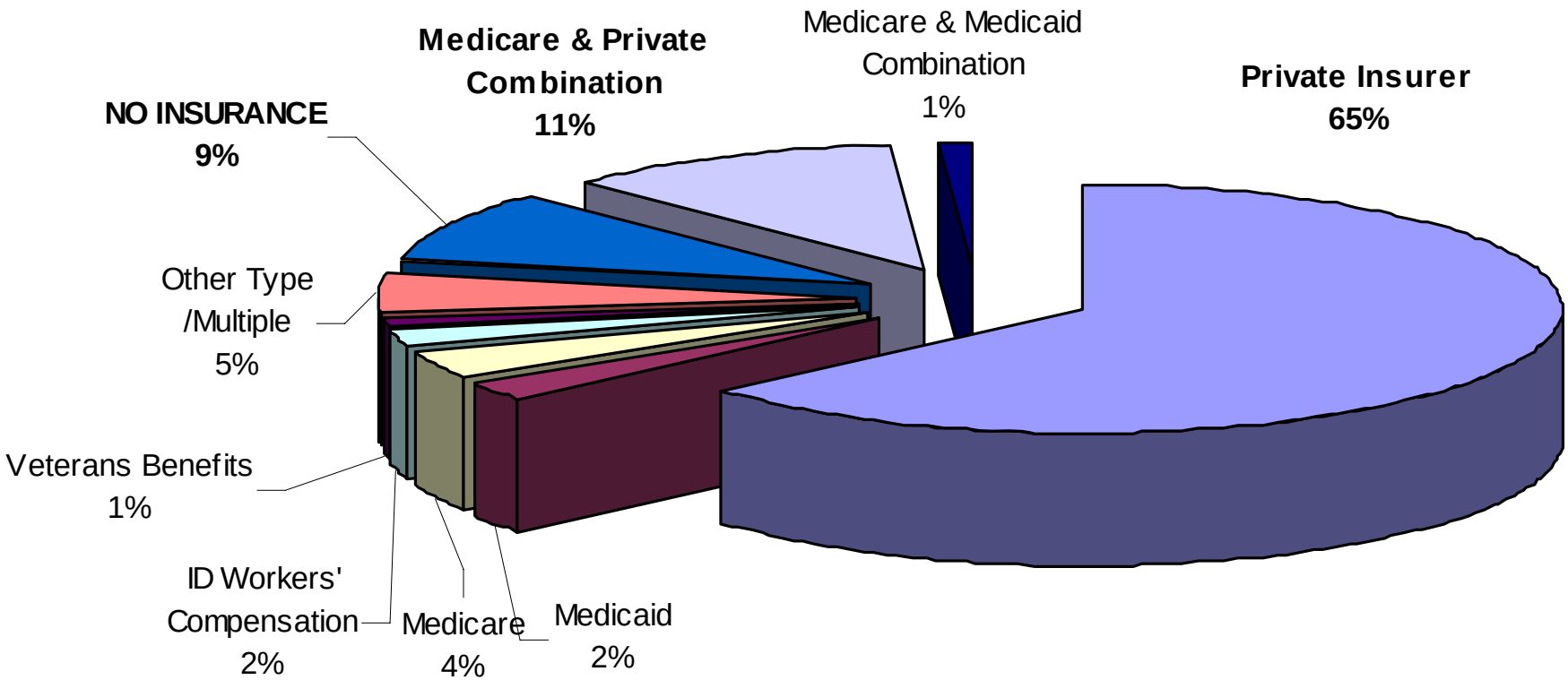
Health Insurance

Region 5 - South East - Coverage



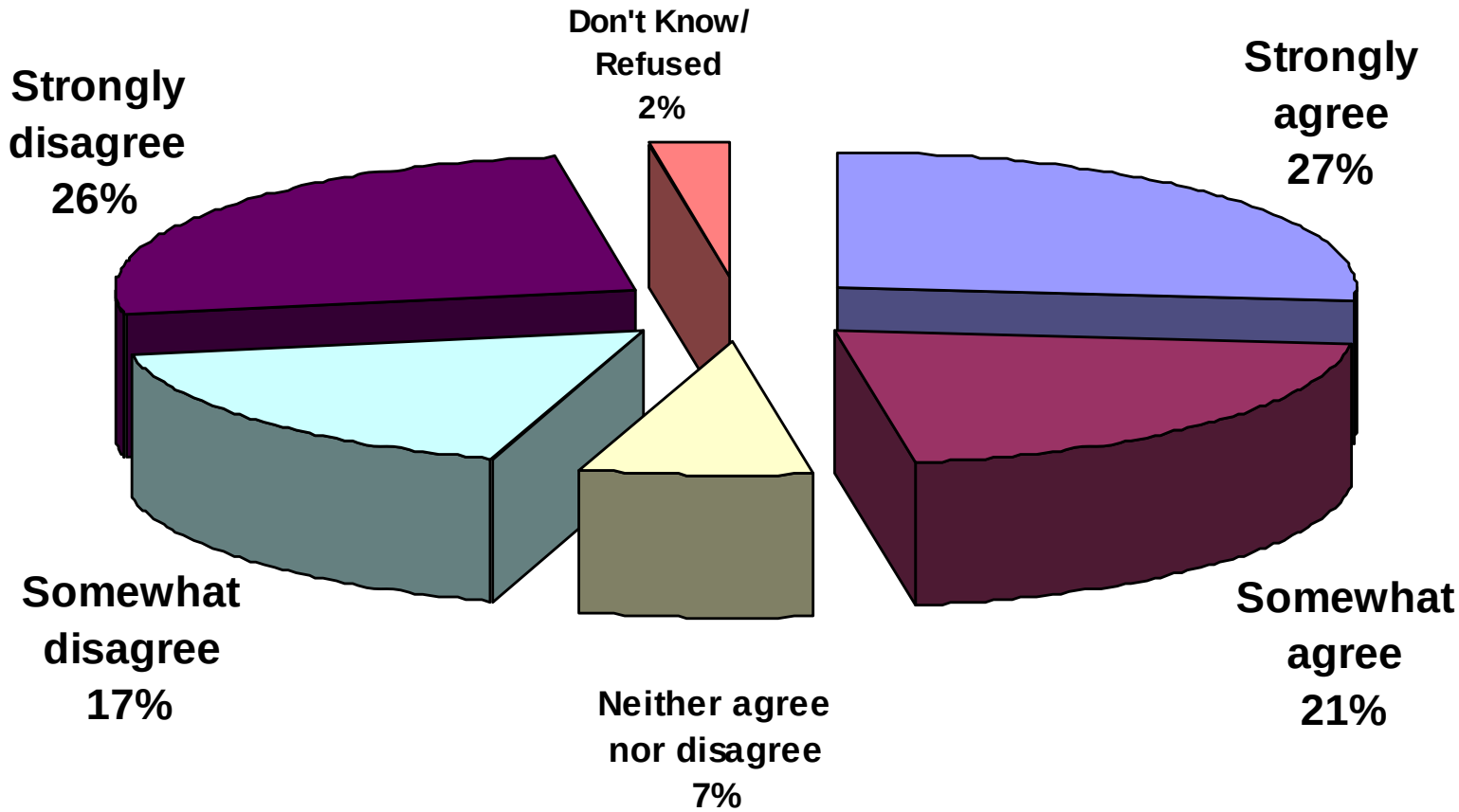
Health Insurance

Region 6 - Eastern - Coverage



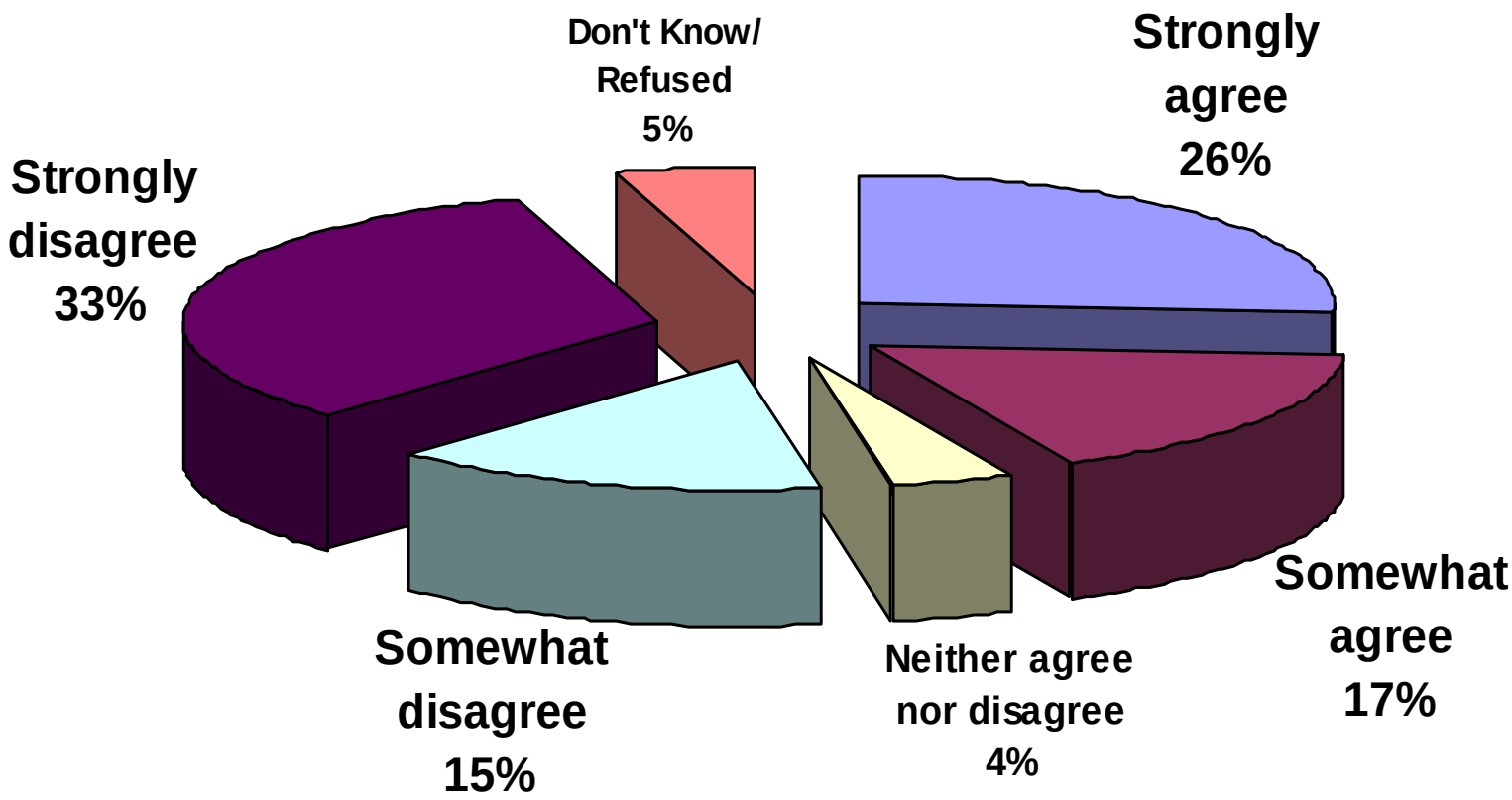
Health Insurance

Statewide - Universal Coverage



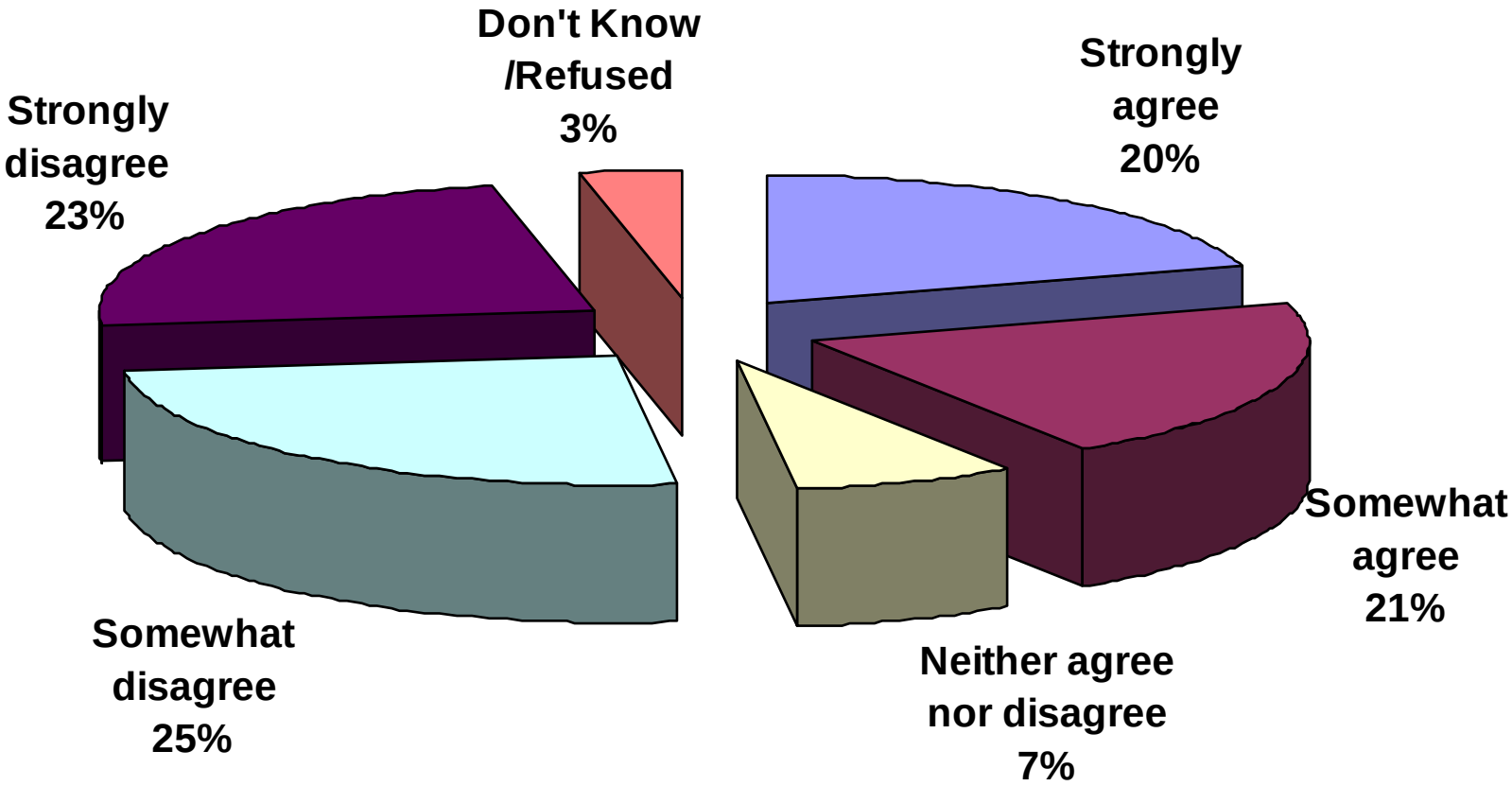
Health Insurance

Region 1 - Panhandle - Universal Coverage



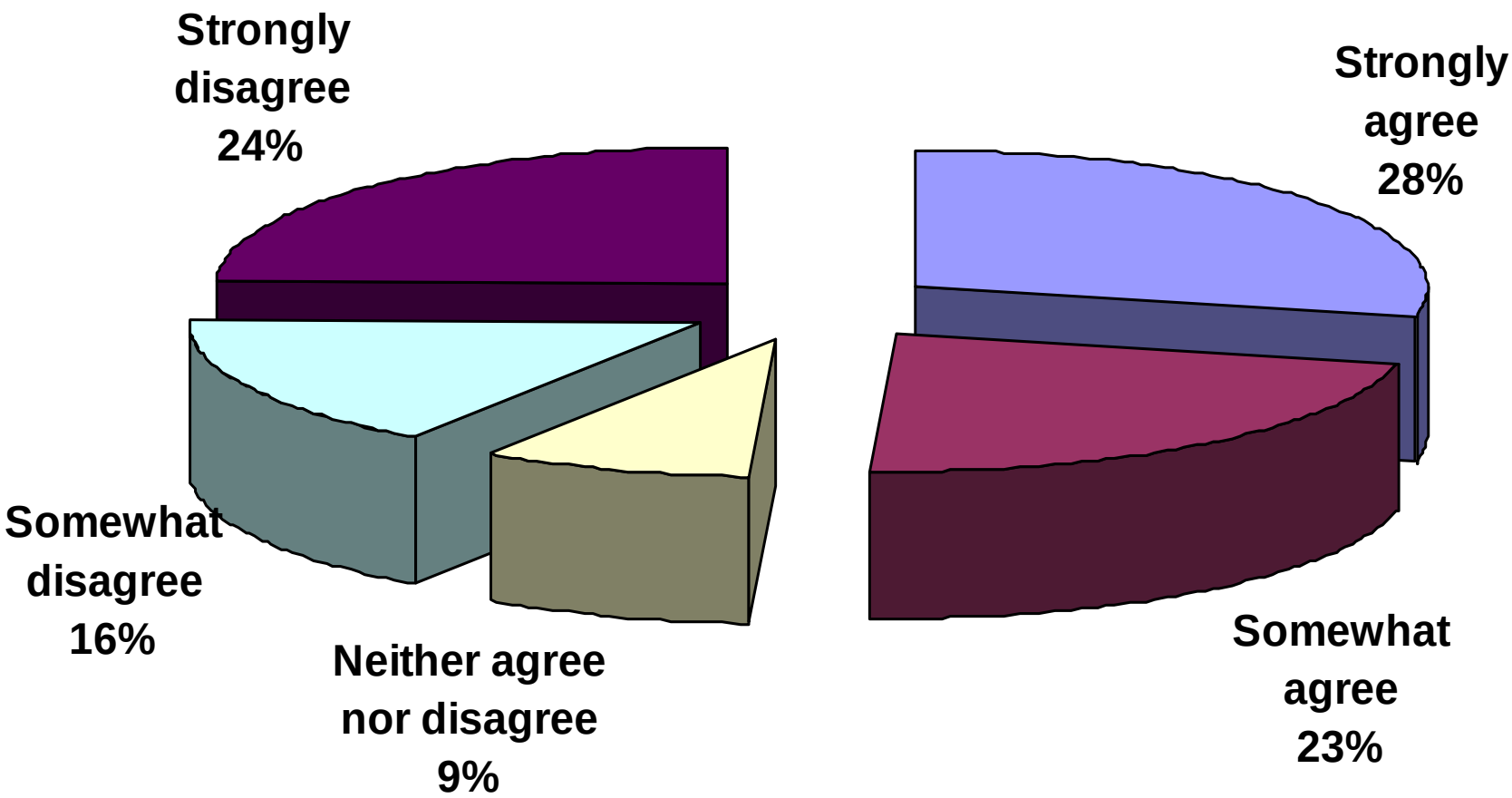
Health Insurance

Region 2 - North Central - Universal Coverage



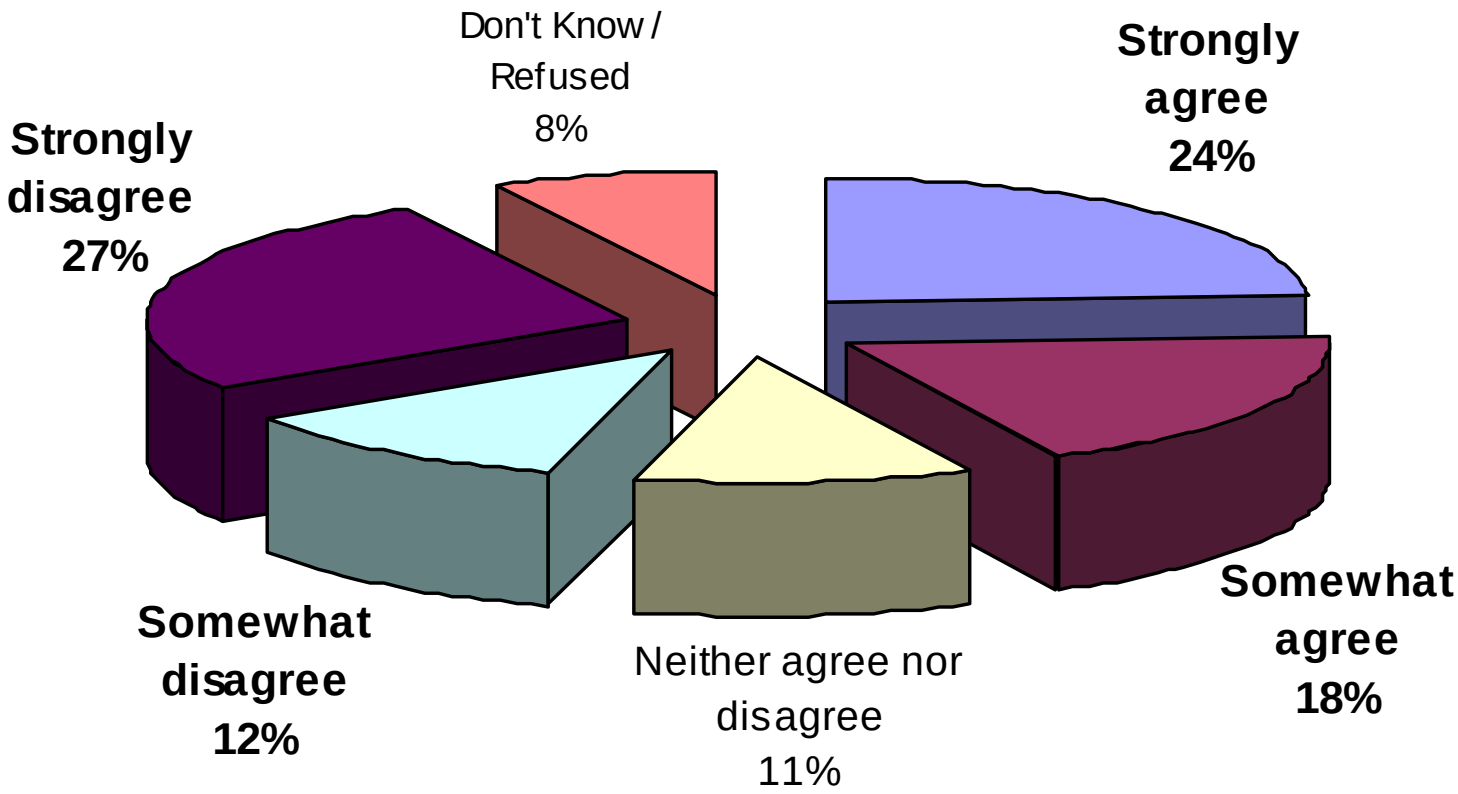
Health Insurance

Region 3 - Southwest - Universal Coverage



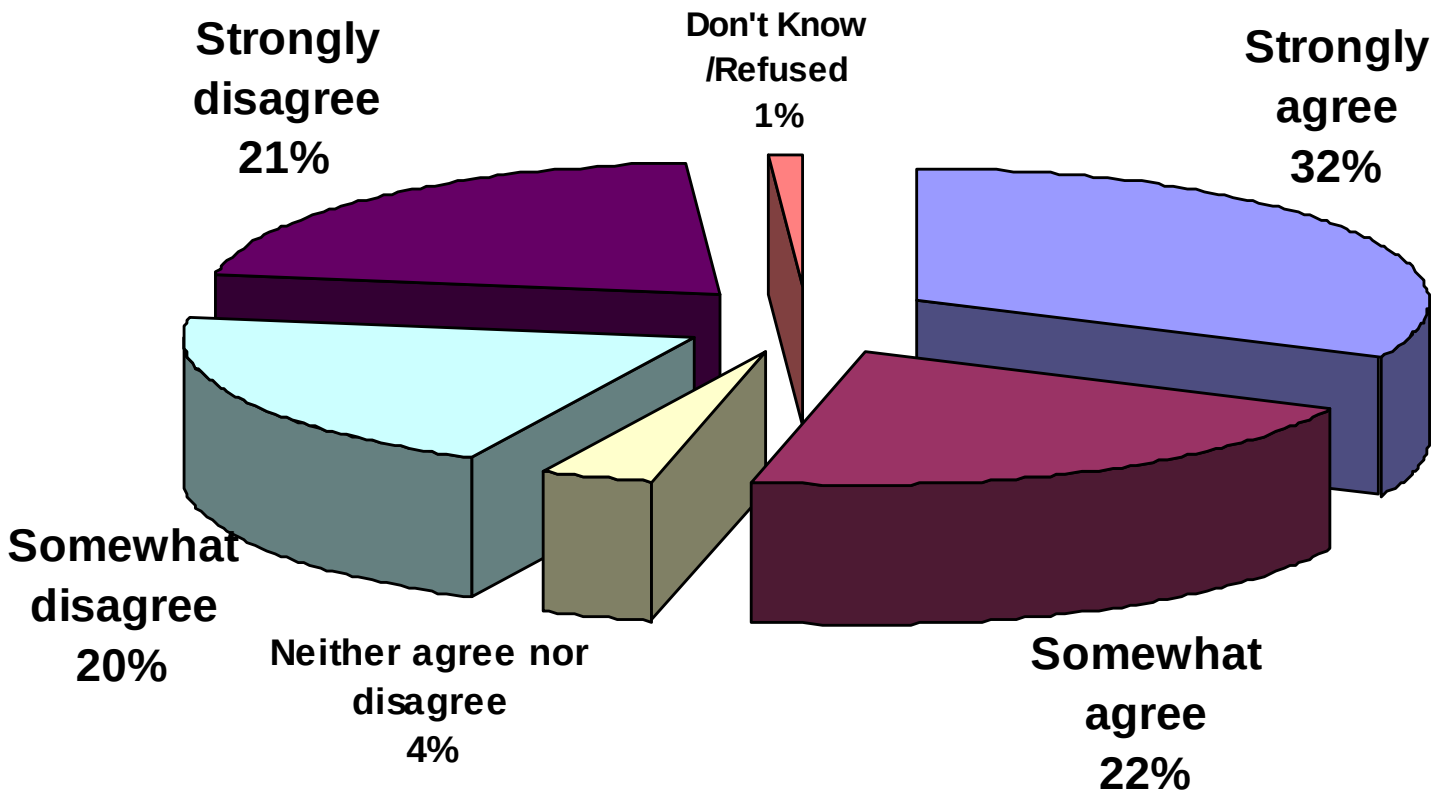
Health Insurance

Region 4 - South Central - Universal Coverage



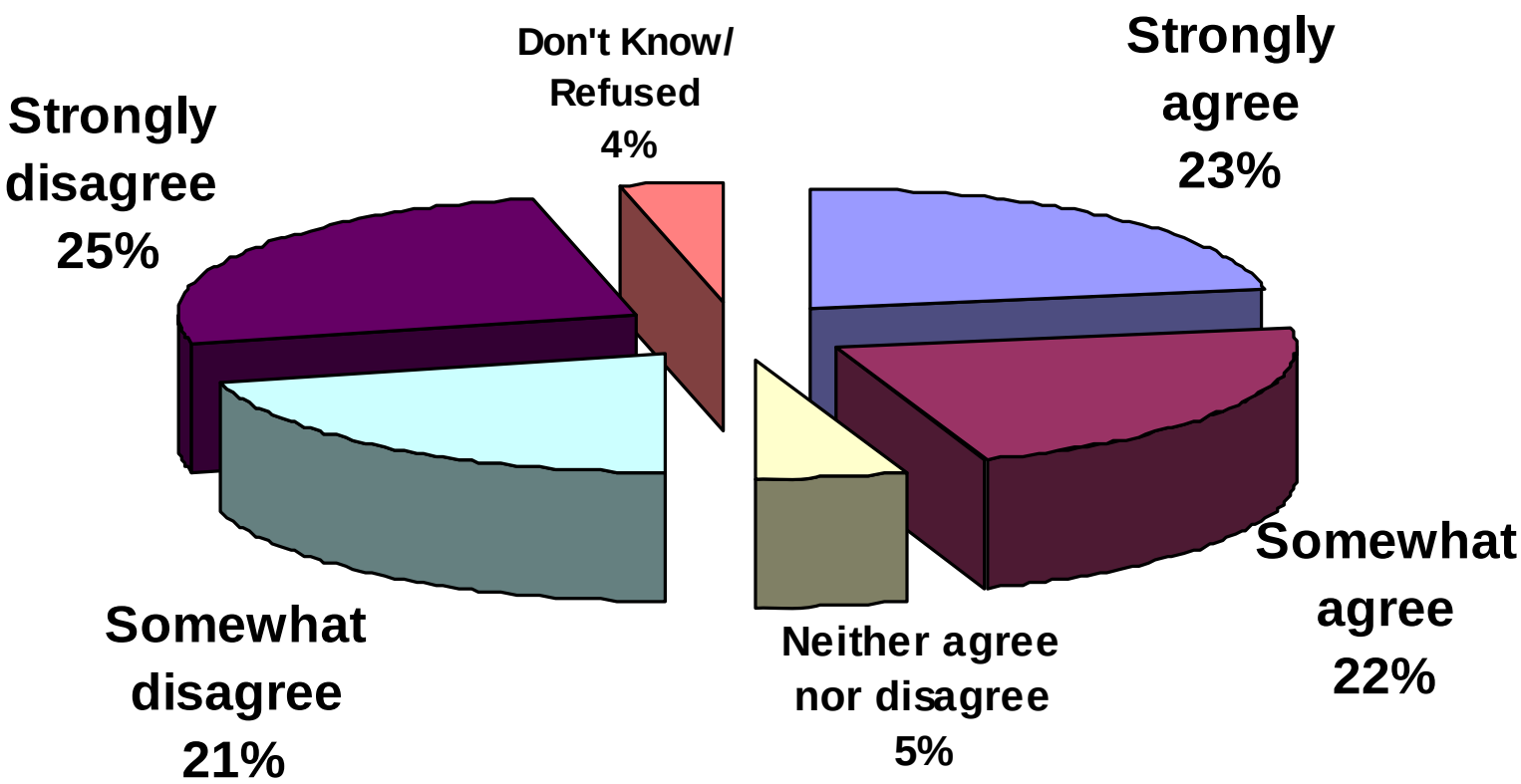
Health Insurance

Region 5 - South East - Universal Coverage



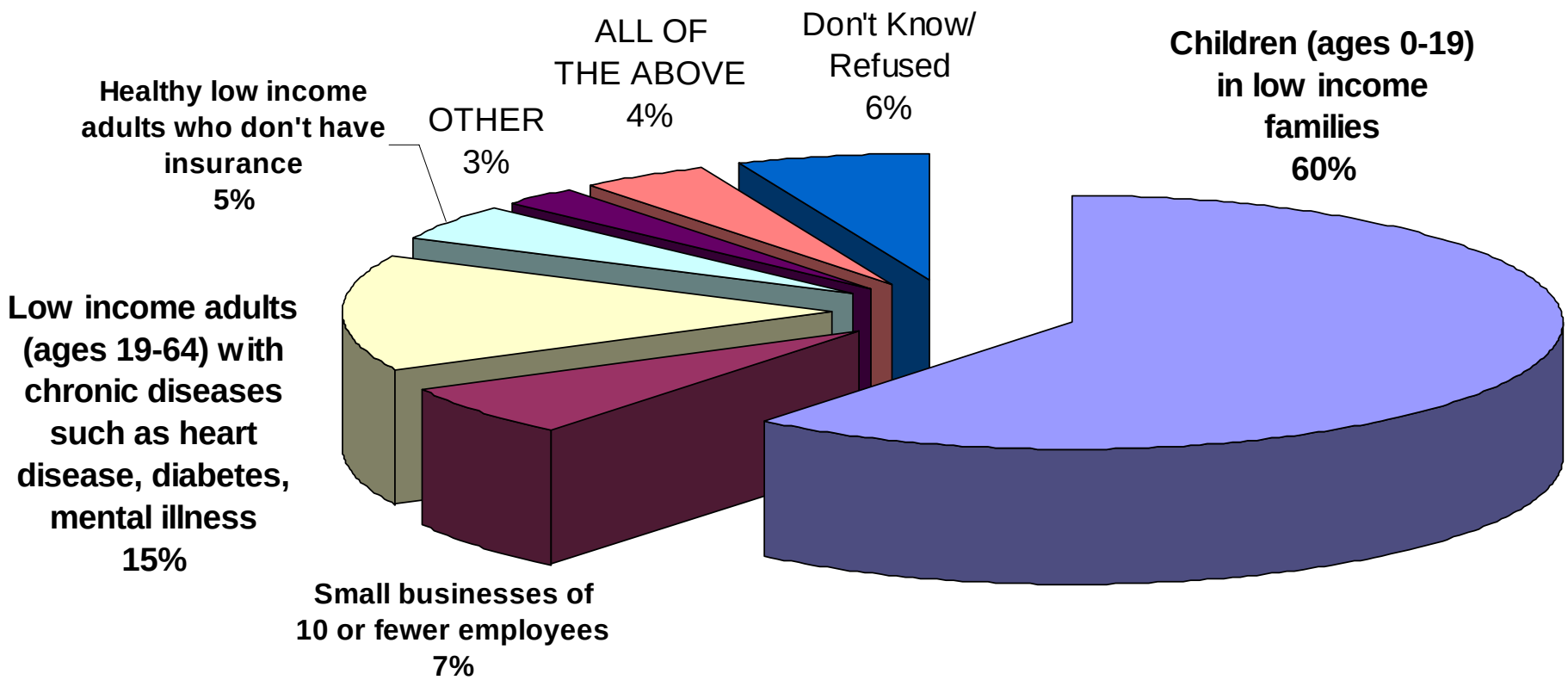
Health Insurance

Region 6 - Eastern - Universal Coverage



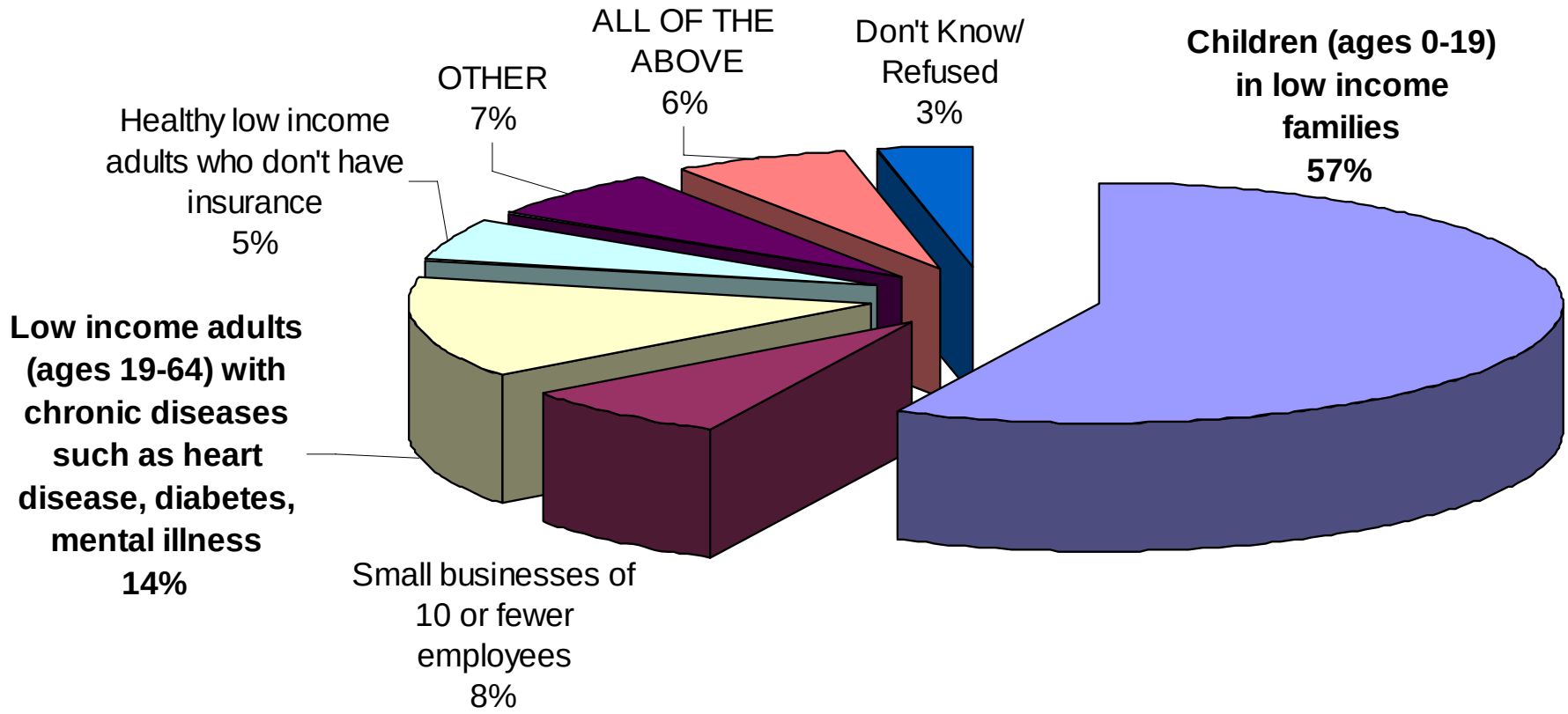
Health Insurance

Statewide - Priority for Public Funding



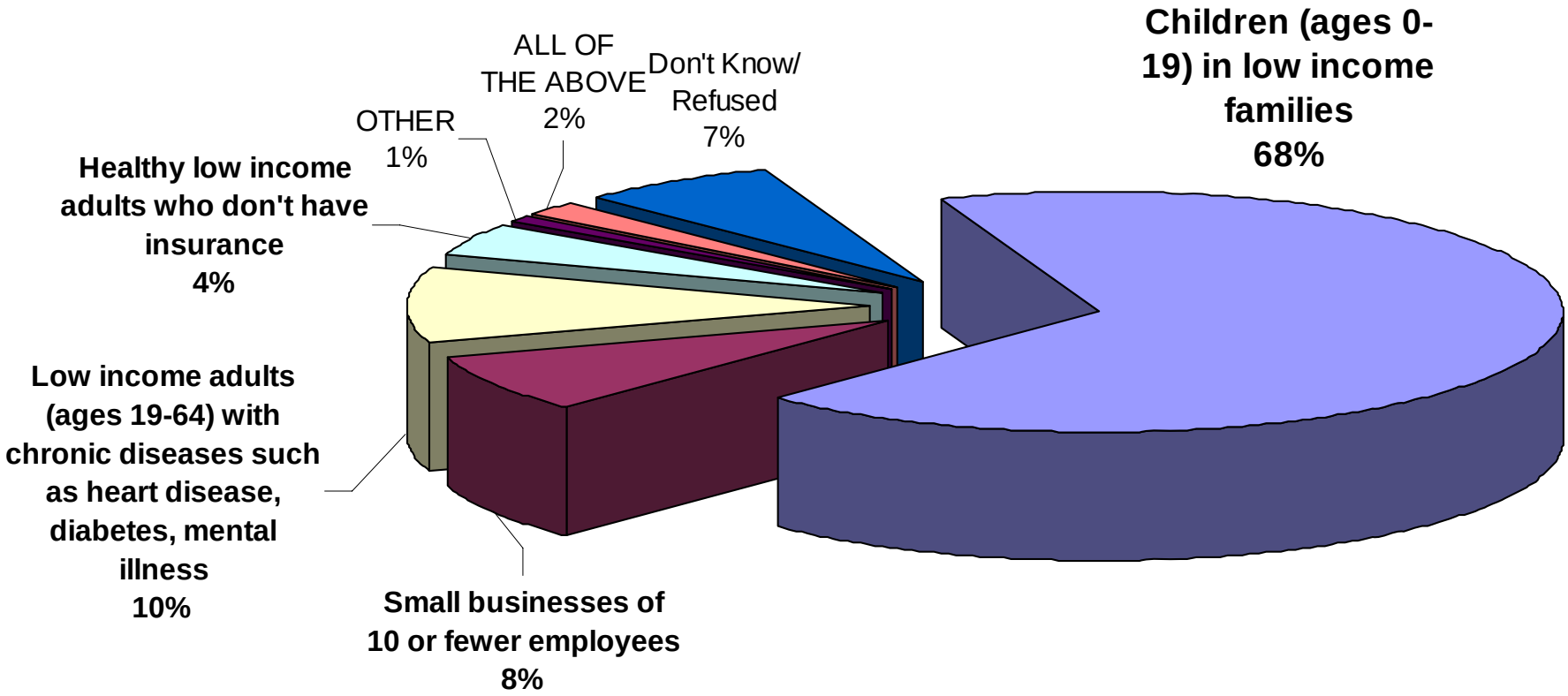
Health Insurance

Region 1 - Panhandle - Priority for Public Funding



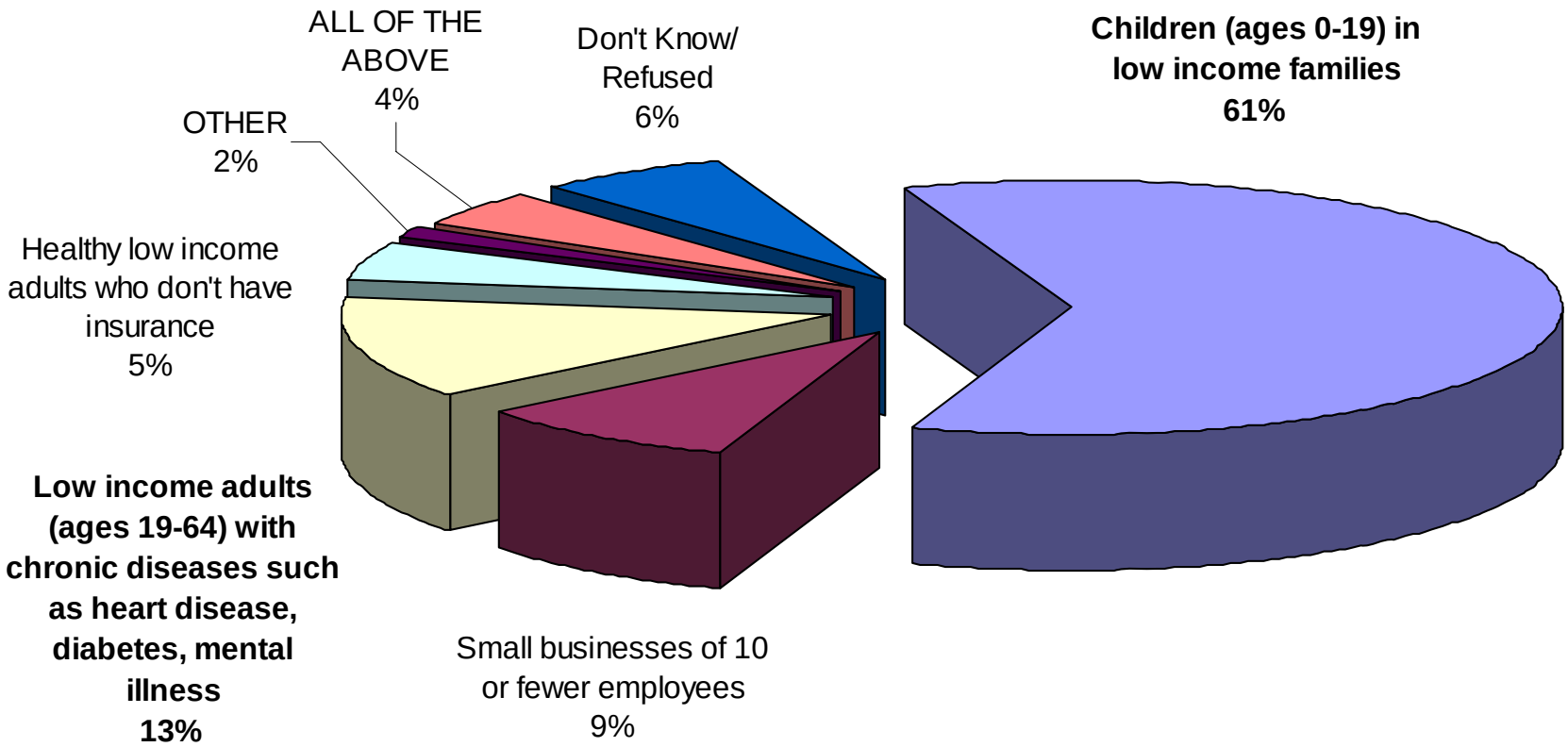
Health Insurance

Region 2 - North Central - Priority for Public Funding



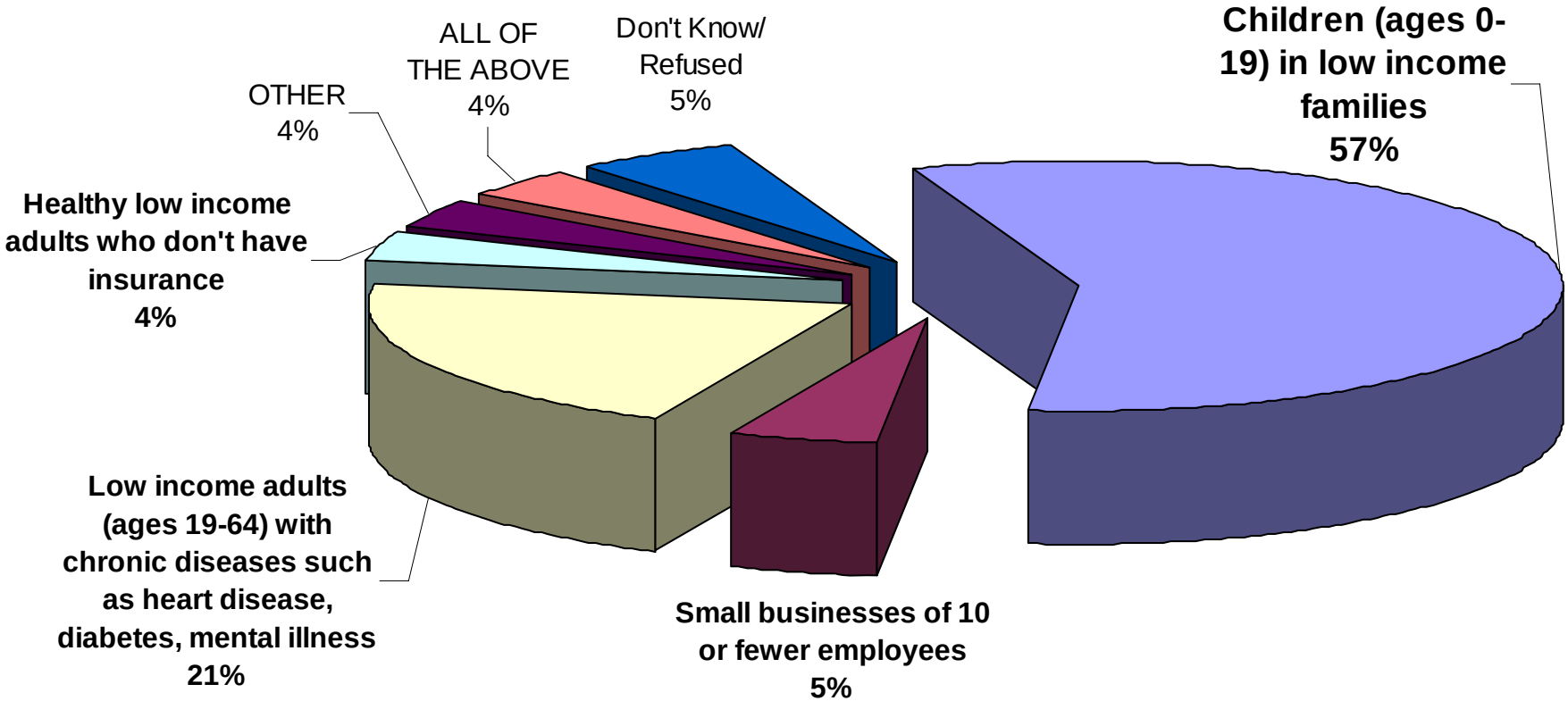
Health Insurance

Region 3 - Southwest - Priority for Public Funding



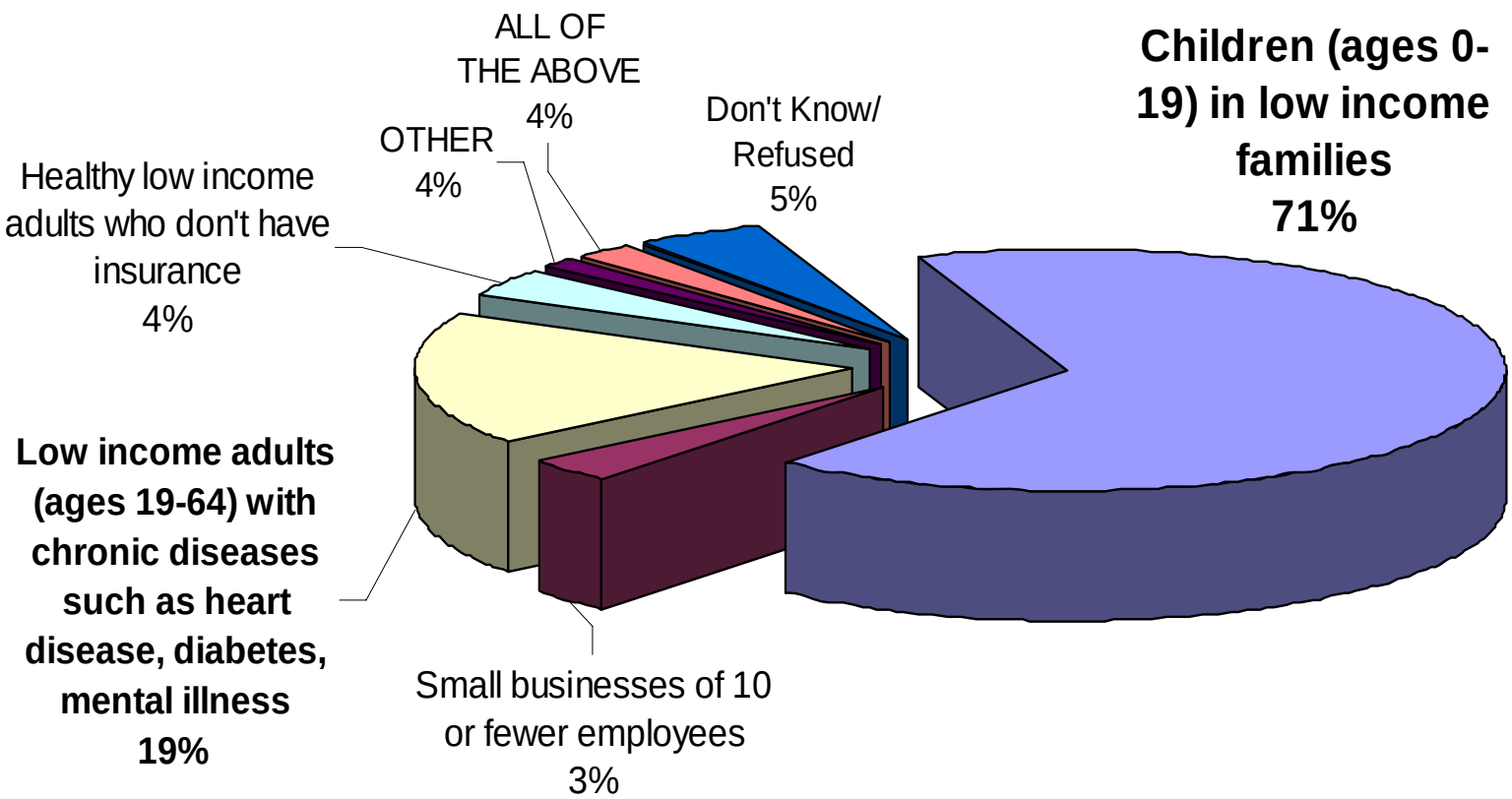
Health Insurance

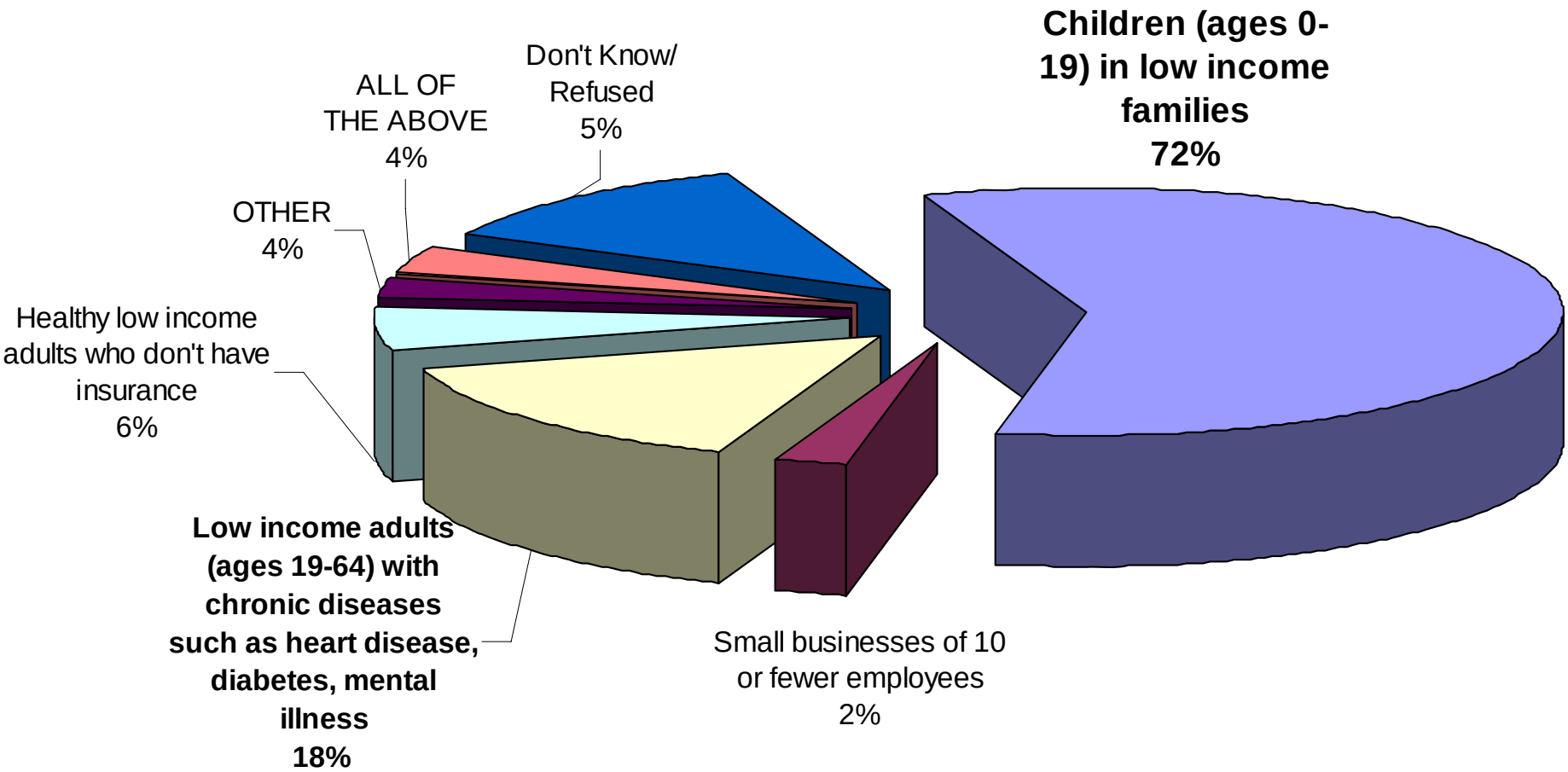
Region 4 - South Central - Priority for Public Funding



Health Insurance

Region 5 - South East - Priority for Public Funding



Health Insurance

Region 6 - Eastern - Priority for Public Funding